

Otto's Tales



TODAY IS
SEPTEMBER 11th

This book was made possible
through a generous gift from an
anonymous family.



This book belongs to:



PragerU is redefining how people think about media and education. Watched millions of times every day, PragerU is the world's leading nonprofit with educational, entertaining, pro-American videos for every age. From intellectual, fact-based 5-Minute Videos and powerful personal storytelling to animated shows made just for kids—PragerU helps people of all ages think and live better.

PragerU Kids teaches history, civics, financial literacy, and American values to children across the K-12th grade spectrum. With kids shows, books, and educational resources for every grade, PragerU Kids offers content that parents and teachers trust and children love. Watch for free and learn more at PragerUkids.com.

All text and illustrations Copyright © 2026 Prager University Foundation.

All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction in whole or in part in any form.

PragerU is a registered trademark of Prager University Foundation.

Published by PragerU

PragerU.com

Otto's Tales

TODAY IS
SEPTEMBER 11th

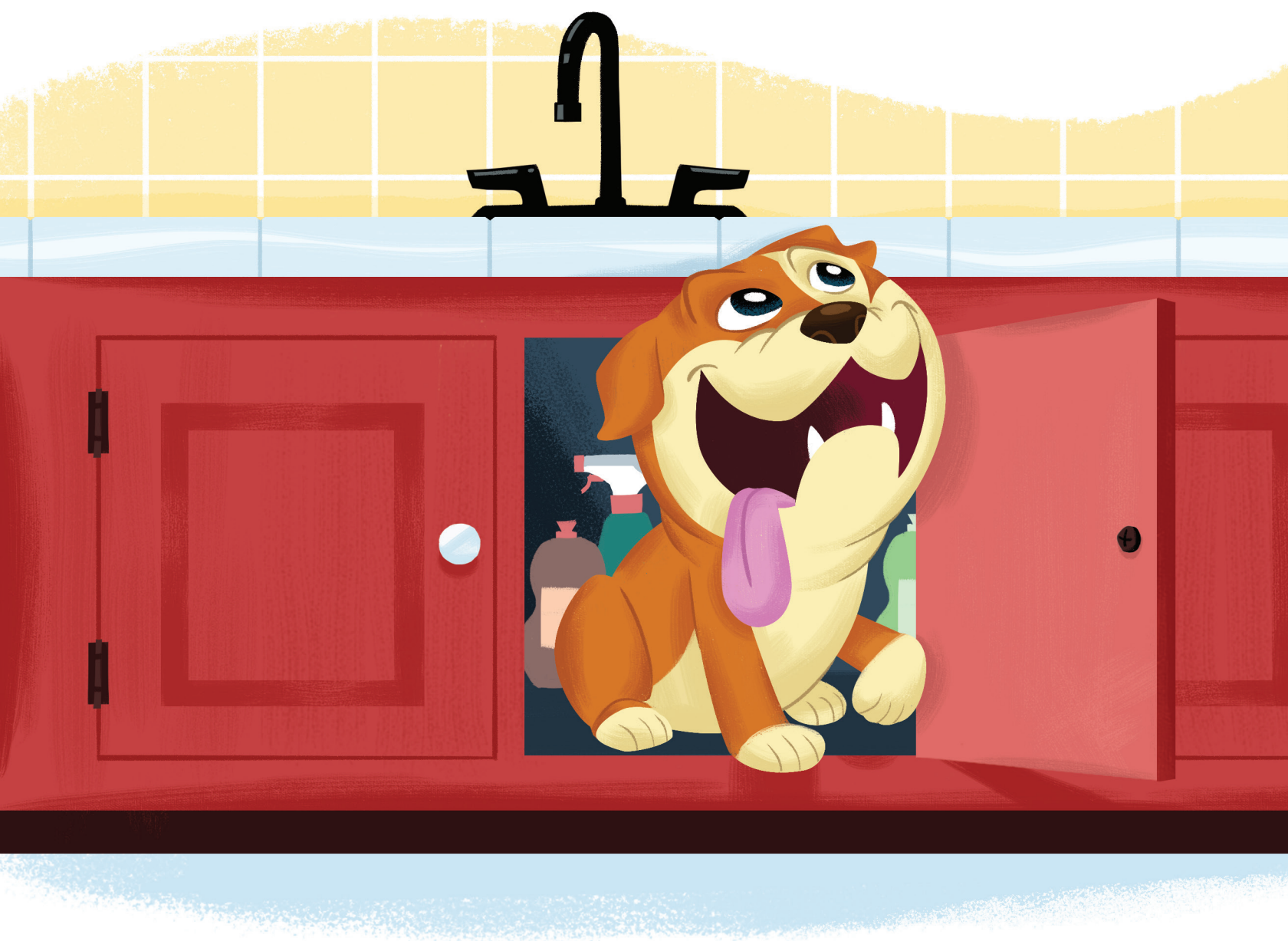


Ruff Ruff!

Today is **September 11th**—a tragic

day in our nation's history. It's important to never forget what happened that fateful day in 2001. We also remember how the country came together—strong and united—after facing adversity.

Dennis climbed to the top of the kitchen counter. “This is our big, red firetruck,” he said. “I’m on top of the ladder.”





"It can be our time machine," I barked.

"There's lots to learn on our next adventure," Dennis said. "Let's roll!"

ZOOM... We traveled back to **New York City.**

"A lovely morning," I said. "Sure is pretty!"

A September day, the sky bright blue.

Lots of people at work with lots of business to do.



At the **World Trade Center**,
we planned to spend several hours.

"There's a spectacular view at the
top of the **Twin Towers!**"

A day like all others:
we had nothing to dread.

We stopped for a snack in the plaza;
Dennis patted my head.



But while we were busy eating and talking,
very bad men with an evil scheme were plotting.

In a few short minutes, our world would be changed
by 19 **terrorists** boarding four planes.



They hated our country,
its people so free.

A world without America
they wanted to see.



Osama bin Laden
was the bad man in charge.
His group called **al-Qaeda**
had grown to be quite large.

Just as we finished our yummy treat,
a sound was heard by everyone on the street.

“Look there,” said Dennis, “what’s that, up in the sky?”
It was a plane flying low that should have been high.

The plane hit one of the Twin Towers in a fiery flash.
There was a huge explosion and a deafening crash.





We all stood shocked, trying to figure out what to do.
Was America under attack? No one quite knew.
And then shortly after, the other tower was hit by plane number two!



The first responders that came were so brave.
They thought only of the people their efforts might save.
They ran toward the buildings as smoke filled the air.
They displayed great courage, a trait exceedingly rare.



There were people helping each other all over the place.
They were young and old, men and women, of every
ethnicity, creed, and race.





So grateful were we for the good
all the people tried to do.

We climbed into our firetruck,
waved, and called out, "Thank you!"





“On to the White House,” Dennis said and ***ZOOM...***
We found ourselves inside an oval-shaped room.

President **George W. Bush** addressed the nation that night.
He said, “This is a day when all Americans unite.”

He said, “The terrorists tried to frighten us and get us to retreat.
But our country is strong—America they can’t defeat.”

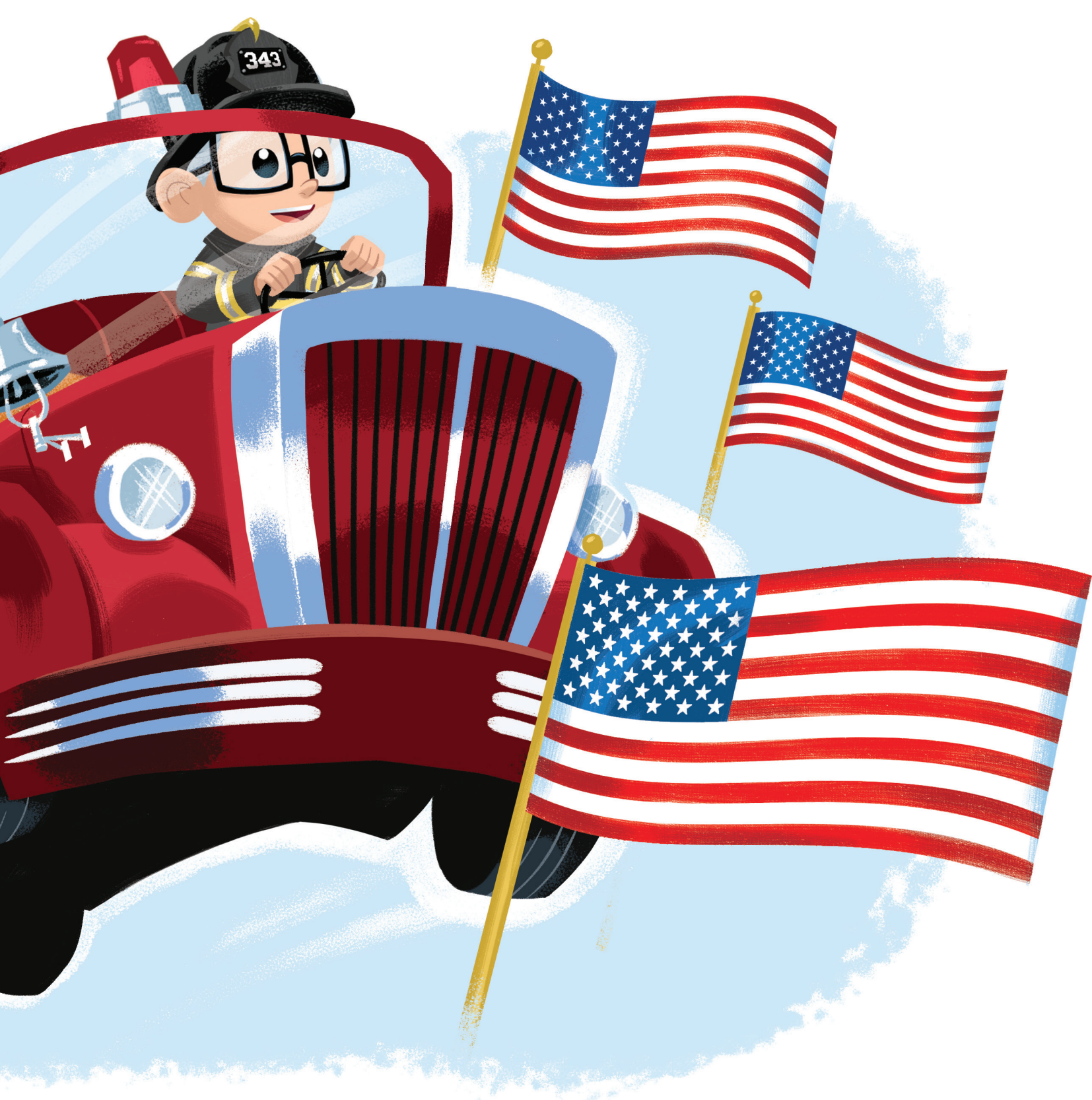


Dennis chimed in, "We saw so many people today doing good. Americans helping each other in any way they could."



In the days that followed, American flags filled the sky.
The country came together, and we know the reason why.

We waved goodbye to President Bush,
jumped back into our firetruck and gave it a big push.



zoom... Dennis shouted, "To the future we go,"
driving the firetruck with me in tow.

We returned to New York on another 11th of September.

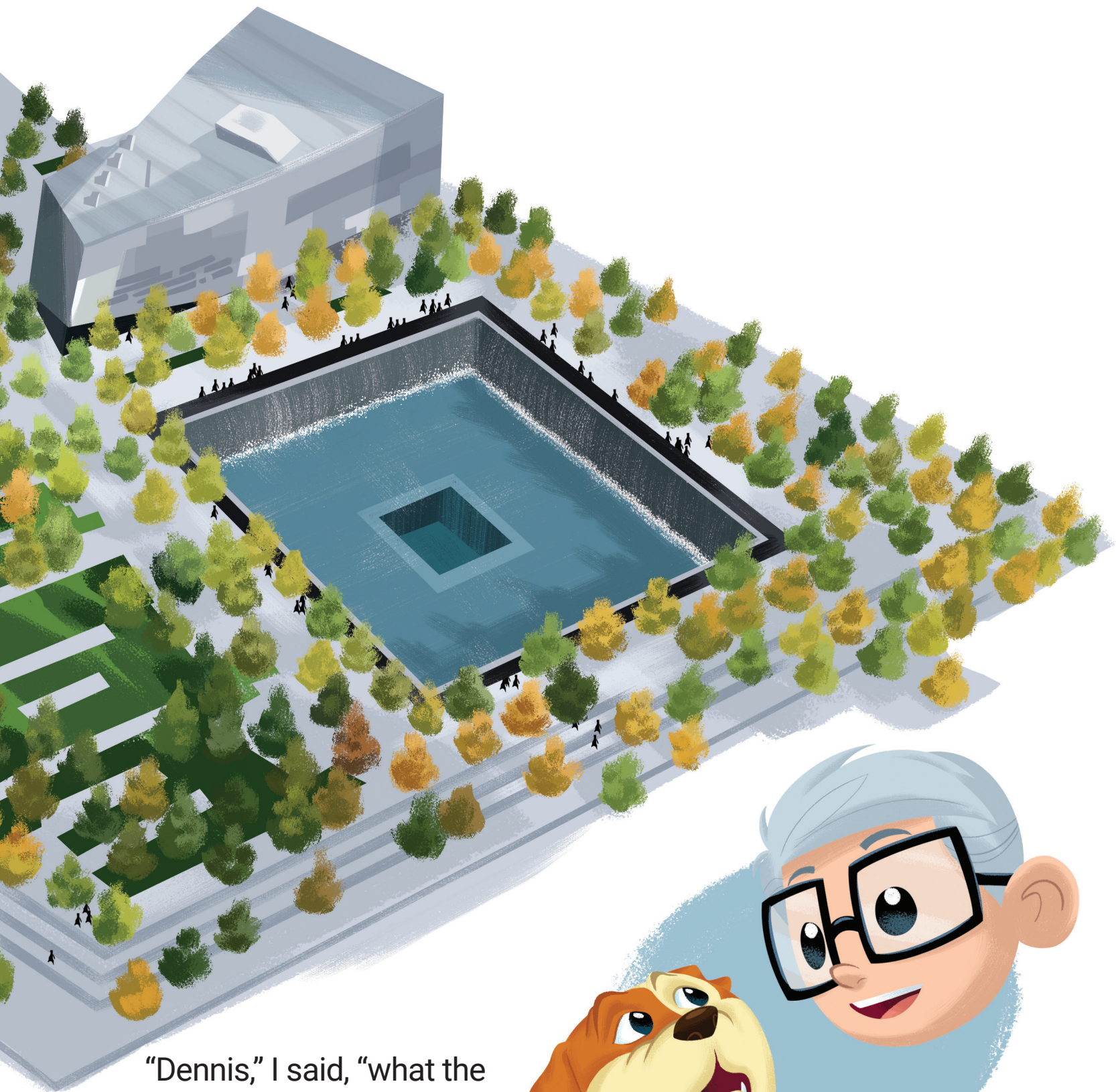
The city built the **9/11 Memorial** to help us remember.

The place where the Towers stood is now called **Ground Zero**.

People were there to honor the fallen, both victims and heroes.

There was a lot at the memorial to learn and to see, including what happened that day at the **Pentagon** and on **Flight 93**.





“Dennis,” I said, “what the terrorists did was wrong.”

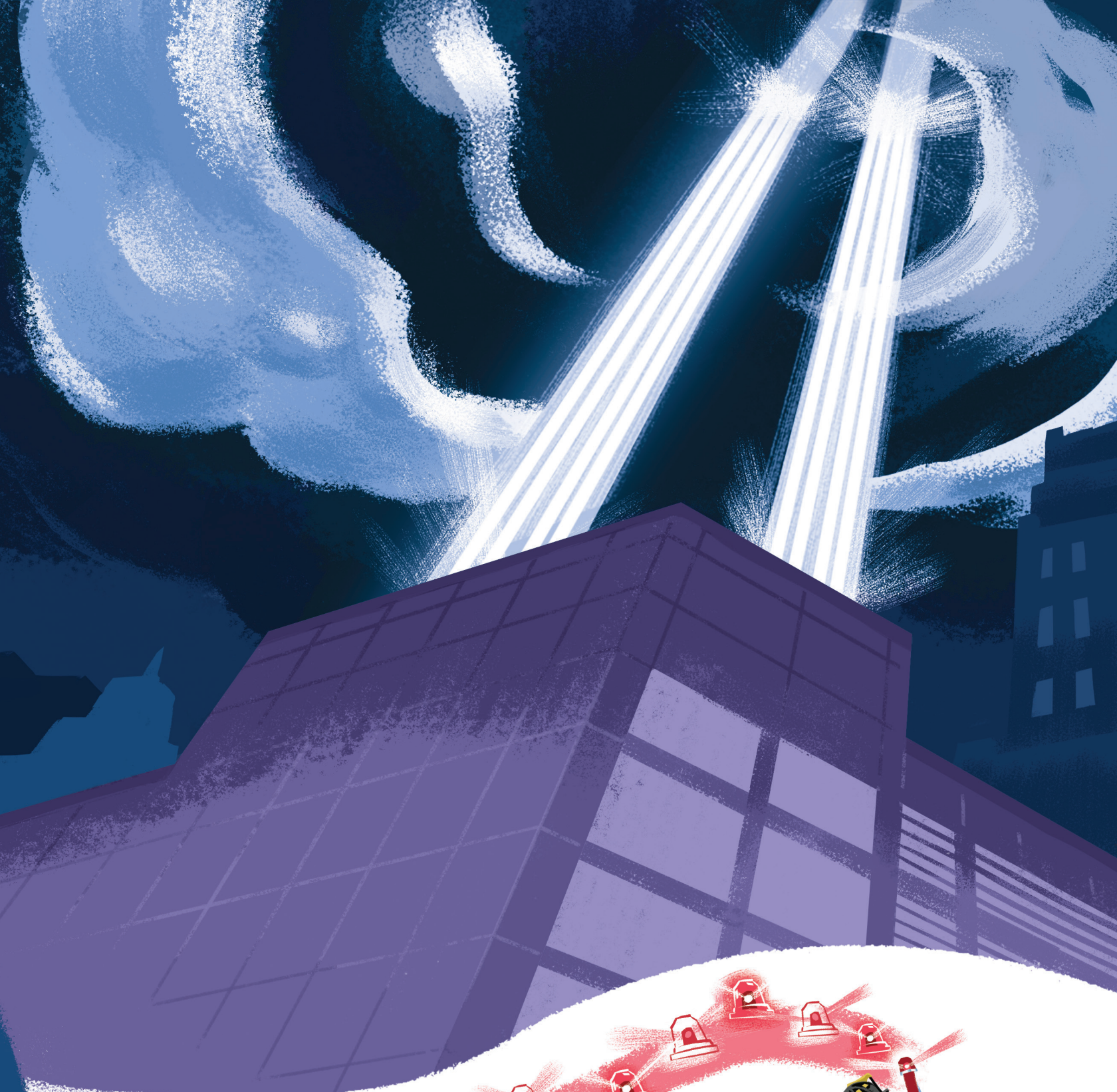
“They tried to hurt us, Otto, but America is strong.”



“Look,” I said, pointing, “at those two beams of light.”
Dennis said, “That’s a shining tribute, lit up
every year on this night.”

“It’s September 11th, Otto. We call it **Patriot Day**.”
I said, “**The Tribute in Light**
is an inspiring display.”





Then we hopped into our firetruck
and once again ***ZOOM...***

Sirens blasted ***WEE-OWW, WEE-OWW***
back to Dennis's room.





"That was a very important adventure," I said.
"Why's that, Otto?"



“Well, I never knew about September 11th and why we must never forget what happened that day.”

“Yes,” said Dennis. “America was attacked for being prosperous and free. The terrorists tried to destroy our way of life, but they did not succeed.”



“And Americans came together even stronger after that terrible attack,” I said.

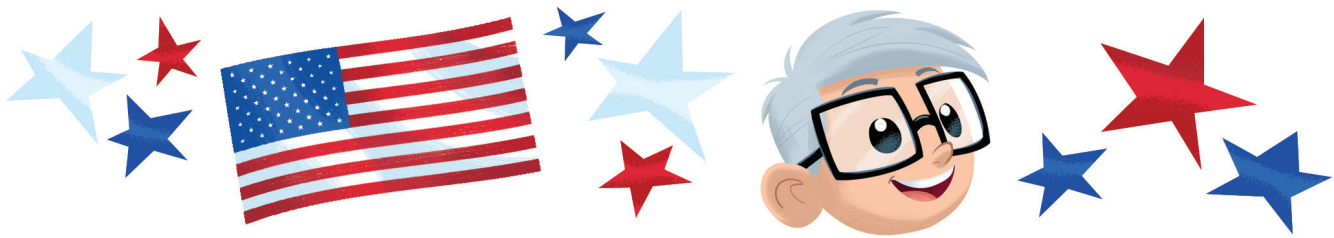
“That’s right,” said Dennis. “Many people acted heroically that day. Our firefighters, police officers, and first responders displayed the best of America—land of the free and home of the brave.”

“We will never forget them!” I barked.



"And we will never forget September 11th. God Bless Patriot Day!"

"God Bless Patriot Day! We will never forget! **Ruff Ruff!**"



We Love Our History

September 11th: The day terrorists attacked America in 2001. They hijacked four planes, crashed two of them into the World Trade Center in New York City, one into the Pentagon outside of our capital, Washington, D.C., and one into a field in Pennsylvania, after the passengers attempted to take the plane back from the terrorists.

New York City: America's biggest city, and the site of the World Trade Center that was attacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001.

World Trade Center: A complex of several big office buildings in New York City. Many of them were destroyed or damaged on September 11, 2001. Some of them have been rebuilt since that tragic day.

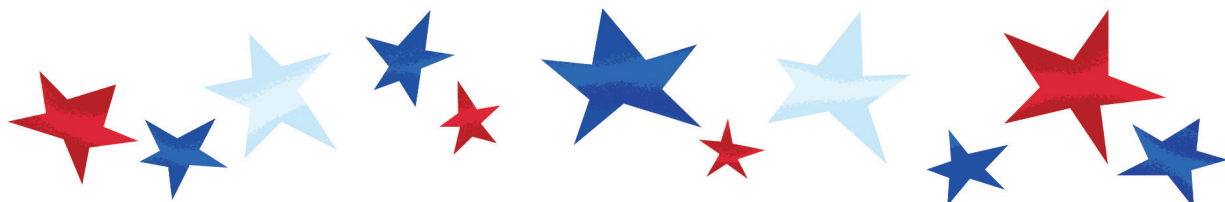
Twin Towers: The two tallest and most famous buildings of the World Trade Center before they were struck by hijacked planes and collapsed on September 11, 2001. They were called the "Twin Towers" because there were two of them placed close together, soaring 110 stories into the Manhattan skyline, and they looked almost identical.

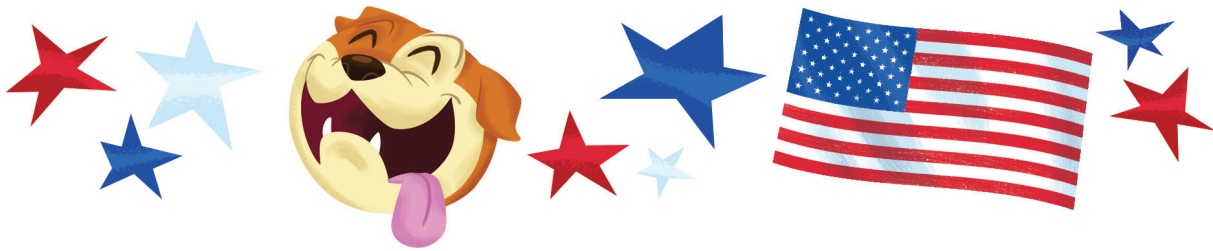
Terrorists: People who use the fear and intimidation of violence to get their way.

Osama bin Laden: The founder and leader of the Al-Qaeda terrorist group. He wanted to destroy America and the American way of life.

Al-Qaeda: A terrorist group founded by Osama bin Laden. The group planned and executed the September 11 attacks. They had previously attacked American soldiers, including the bombing of the Navy ship *USS Cole* in 2000 in the country of Yemen.

George W. Bush: The 43rd President of the United States, from 2001-2009. President Bush helped lead and unite Americans after the September 11 attacks.





9/11 Memorial: The memorial in New York City to the victims of the September 11 attacks. In the place where the Twin Towers once stood are the footprints of the towers: two giant holes in the ground with beautiful waterfalls flowing down all four walls, and the name of every victim inscribed in bronze plaques along the edge of the waterfalls.

Ground Zero: The name adopted immediately after the attacks for the location where the Twin Towers once stood.

Pentagon: The headquarters of our nation's military, located close to Washington, D.C., our nation's capital. It was also attacked with a hijacked plane on September 11.

Flight 93: One of the planes that was hijacked by terrorists on September 11. The brave passengers realized what was happening, and attempted to take the plane back from the terrorists. They didn't succeed, but they prevented the plane from hitting another target (probably the Capitol building), and probably saved many lives that would have been lost had the plane reached its intended target. They are among that terrible day's many heroes.

Patriot Day: The national holiday that takes place every year on September 11 in memory of the victims of the September 11 attack and the first responders who saved so many lives that day.

Tribute in Light: A tribute that takes place every year on the night of September 11. Vertical searchlights are arranged in two columns of light beaming upward into the sky near where the Twin Towers used to stand in Lower Manhattan. It is a moving and haunting reminder to everyone of the awe-inspiring Twin Towers that once stood there and the tragedy of the lives lost that day.



READY FOR MORE?

Experience all the **FREE CONTENT**
PragerU Kids has to offer!



STREAM FREE SHOWS ON YOUR TV OR TABLET

Download our FREE mobile or TV app to stream every PragerU Kids show! Or, watch any time at PragerUkids.com.



ENJOY HOURS OF FREE SHOWS

Browse over 300 educational videos for K-12, including game shows, cartoons, and inspiring reality shows.



EXPLORE WHOLESOME STORIES & AMAZING HISTORY

Download free e-books at PragerUkids.com or purchase printed copies on Amazon.



FREE RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS & PARENTS

Supplement your child's viewing experience with lesson plans & worksheets that meet educational standards.



**See you in
our *next* adventure!**

- Dennis and Otto

ABOUT

Otto's Tales

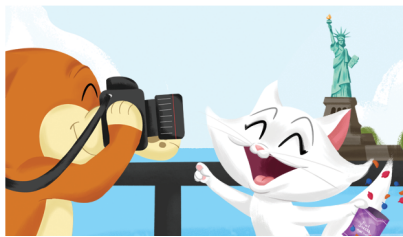
Come along on a storybook adventure with our beloved **OTTO'S TALES** books and animated shows, which instill wholesome values, patriotism, and the American spirit in each episode. Journey along at home or school, and celebrate the American people, places, and events that make our country special!

**Discover all the shows & books from
OTTO'S TALES!**



TODAY IS

Celebrating American
holidays & traditions



LET'S VISIT

Traveling to important locations
around the United States



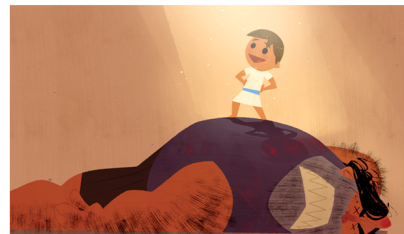
LET'S MEET

Honoring our
community helpers



FOLKTALES

Sharing stories that
shape our culture



BIBLE STORIES

Inspiring
Judeo-Christian values



WATCH & READ!